APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 603 asked by Sri N. K. Palanisami at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 7th April 1960, page 70 supra.]

A.—(*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) In their preliminary draft proposals for the Second Five-Year Plan, this Government suggested the inclusion of the following large and medium project :—

(1) Manufacture of aluminium and products of aluminium.

(2) Pilot blast furnace for utilizing the Salem iron ores.

(3) Manufacture of special and alloy steels.

(4) Units for manufacture of steel casting and forges.

(5) Manufacture of electrical transformers and switch gears.

(6) Manufacture of sulphuric acid and fertilizer using gypsum.

(7) Establishment of a paper mill unit.

(8) Manufacture of electrical porcelain and sanitary wares.

(9) Manufacture of power alcohol.

(10) Manufacture of doors and windows and tentwood fellowes.

(11) Manufacture of D.D.T.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 609 asked by Sri A. Vedarathnam at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 7th April 1960, page 74 supra.]

Soil-testing in Thanjavur district

The soils of the Thanjavur district have been examined by the Soil-Testing Laboratory at Coimbatore. The scheme itself was formally inaugurated at Nagappattinam on the 23rd February 1957 in the presence of the Honourable Minister for Agriculture, Madras State. This function was organised by the members of the Taluk Agricultural Association, Nagappattinam, who are of opinion that as the leading district in rice production in Madras State, the demands of the agriculturists of the district can be adequately met only when a separate Soil-Testing Service is started in that district.

Since then Thanjavur district has been sending a large number of samples to the Soil-Testing Laboratory for analysis. Out of a total of 13,000 received from the whole State, 3,050 samples

have been from Thanjavur district alone. A list of places where extensive soil-testing has been carried out is furnished below :—

Tiruthuraipundi Block	About	450
Tiruvarur Block	,,	400
Keevalur Block	,,	400
Vadapathimangalam Block	,,	350
Ammapet Block	,,	300
Aduthurai Block	,,	100
Kodavasal Block	,,	50
Nannilam Block	,,	75
Pattukkottai Block	,,	50
Sirkali Block	,,	50
Thirukattupalli Block	,,	50

The balance of about 750 samples are from other areas in the district.

Most of the taluks in the district have been visited by the Soil-Testing Service and the samples collected represent most of the block areas in the district.

The importance of soil-testing was stressed and given importance in a few village leader's camps. For example, during June 1957, a village leader's camp was held at Athoor, Kivaloor taluk, which was attended by a large number of farmers. Dr. Mariakulandai, the then Government Agricultural Chemist, met these farmers in person and while addressing the gathering cleared the doubts of the farmers regarding the fertility status of their soil and the proper application of fertilizers and manures. During this function, about 200 samples were received from the farmers for testing by the Soil-Testing Service Laboratory.

Most of the soils received from Thanjavur district have been analysed. A summary of the soil-testing result of samples analysed till the end of December 1959 is furnished below : —

Soil-test.	*Soil reaction. (PH)*			*Soluble salts status. (EC)*			*Nitrogen status.*			*Phosphorus status.*			*Potash status.*		
Condition	Acidic	Normal	Alkaline	HL	C	INJ	L	M	H	L	M	H	L	M	H
Percentage of the samples examined.	15	78	7	73	20	7	78	13	9	76	16	8	17	61	22

HL = Harmless.
C = Critical.
INJ = Injurious.
L = Low.
M = Medium.
H = High.

The above data gives a general picture of the fertility status of the analysed soils of the district.

The recommendations given by the Soil-Testing Service were followed with enthusiasm by most of the farmers particularly those of Nagappattinam, Tiruvarur and Tiruturaipundi block areas and definite increase in yields have been obtained.